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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There are about 100 temporary nurses. Steps are being taken to regularize their appointment very early."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" May I know how many of them belong to the soft fair sex, Sir? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The proportion of women nurses to men nurses is 3 : 1."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" అధ్యక్షా, నేను వేసిన ప్రశ్నను మంత్రిగారు అర్థంచేసుకోలేదు అనుకుంటాను. వారికి అర్థం కాకపోతే, ఇంగ్లీషులోనైనా తర్జుమా చేయించుకొని అయినా జవాబు చెప్పమనండి."

MR. SPEAKER :—" If the hon. Member feels that the Hon. Minister has not understood his question, let him put it in English."

SRI M. VEERABHADRAM :—" ఆంధ్రరాష్ట్రం వచ్చిన తర్వాతనే ఇవ్వండి. నేను వేసిన ప్రశ్న ఏమిటంటే, మంత్రిగారు తెలిపిచ్చిన 33 నర్సులలోను పది సంవత్సరాల సర్వీసు పూర్తిచేసినవారు ఉన్నారా? ఉంటే వారియొక్క సర్వీసు యింతవరకు regularize చేయకపోవటానికి కారణమేముంది?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" No, Sir. The nurses are kept on a temporary basis only for a short time."

SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD :—" May I know why there has been such inordinate delay in regularizing their services? Is this the way in which the Government encourage the appointment of women nurses? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" There has been no inordinate delay. When the nurses finish their training, they are employed on a temporary basis for a short time and then they are regularized, if they are selected by the Committee appointed for the purpose."

SRI S. VEMIAH :—" Of these 33 nurses, may I know how many belong to the Scheduled Castes and what the maximum period of service put in by them is? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" A separate question may be put, Sir."

SRI R. SIDDANNA GOWD :—" Is it how the Government encourage the appointment of women nurses by not regularizing their services for a long time? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" I have already said that there is no delay in regularizing their services. Perhaps the hon. Member has not listened to what I said."

*Alleged starvation death in Udayarpalayam taluk.*

* 100 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a Harijan girl of Pappakudi village, Udayarpalayam taluk, died of starvation on 21st December 1952 ; and

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(*b*) the steps taken by the Government to prevent such starvation deaths?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" In view of the fact that in the mahazar signed by about 40 persons of the village reference was made to this death, may I know whether the Government enquired of these persons regarding this death? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" Yes, Sir. An enquiry was made and the death seems to have occurred not on that particular date but on a different date. The person seems to have died after suffering from fever for two or three months and all the other members of the family are quite all right and they have not been starving for want of food."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know who made the enquiry into this matter? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Tahsildar made the enquiry and the statement of the uncle of the deceased person was also taken."

SRI T. LAKSHMINARAYANA REDDI :—" అన్నంలేక చాలా దినాలు కస్తు వుండడము వల్ల రోగాలు సంభవించుచున్నది. ఆ రోగాలద్వారా చనిపోవుచున్నారు. ఇవి ఆకలిచావులు కావని ప్రభుత్వం నిరూపించుచున్నది. ఆకలి చావులకు నిర్వచనం చెప్పగలారా? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The hon. Member puts a general question. If he puts a supplementary question on the main question, I am prepared to answer."

MR. SPEAKER :—" The Hon. Minister made a long statement the other day on starvation deaths. So I pass on to the next question."

*Agricultural Demonstrators.*

* 101 *Q.*—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state how many seats of Demonstrators of Agriculture are reserved for Harijans in the Madras State?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" Agricultural Demonstrators are included in the category of upper subordinates in Category 1, Class I of the Madras Agricultural Subordinate Service. Three out of every 20 appointments to these posts are reserved for candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" May I know what the total number of demonstrators in the State is? "